

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A power tool gripping portion comprising:

a power tool having a housing and a motor within said housing for actuating an output member of the tool;

a gripping portion on the housing adapted to be engaged by the hand of a user of the tool and comprising:

at least one flexible member, at least one recess in said housing and at least one securing plate having at least one aperture therein such that at least one said securing plate clamps said at least one flexible member in said housing recess such that a gaseous vibration damping medium is retained between said flexible member and said housing such that said flexible member in use protrudes through said at least one aperture, and substantially none of the vibration damping medium, in use, is sandwiched between said securing plate and said housing, and said securing plate including a fastening mechanism for securing said securing plate with said housing for covering said recess of the housing and said securing plate providing a surface adjacent said at least one flexible member.

2. (Currently Amended) A gripping portion on a power tool comprising:

the power tool including a housing and a motor within said housing for actuating an output member of the power tool, the gripping portion on the power tool adapted to be engaged by the hand of a user of the power tool, and said gripping portion further comprising:

at least one respective flexible sheet, at least one recess in said housing, and at least one securing plate having at least one aperture enabling a portion of said at least one flexible sheet to protrude through said at least one aperture, wherein the flexible sheet is mounted to the securing plate to retain gaseous vibration damping medium between said at least one recess in said housing and a single thickness of said flexible sheet to define a chamber between them and wherein the chamber is bound by the housing recess and the single thickness of said sheet and said single thickness of said sheet directly contacting the housing recess adjacent said chamber.

3. (Previously Presented) A gripping portion according to claim 2, wherein at least one said flexible sheet is formed from a plurality of pockets.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously Presented) A gripping portion according to claim 2, further comprising gaseous vibration damping material in said chamber and said gaseous vibration damping material is air.

6. (Currently Amended) A power tool comprising a housing having a handle with a recess and a motor to actuate an output member of the tool, said handle comprising a gripping portion and a chamber enclosing a gaseous vibration damping medium extending outwardly from said gripping portion, said gripping portion surrounding said chamber and securing said chamber in said gripping portion, wherein said chamber is disposed relative to the gripping portion and said chamber positioned on said gripping portion for enabling parts of the user's hand, such as fingers, to contact the gripping portion and other parts, such as palm or heel, to contact the chamber for providing a dampening function for the user such that both the gripping portion and the chamber are simultaneously gripped during operation of the tool and a securing plate including at least one aperture through which said chamber protrudes, such that said gaseous vibration damping medium is retained between said chamber and said housing such that said chamber in use protrudes through said at least one aperture, and substantially none of said vibration damping medium, in use, is sandwiched between said securing plate and said housing, said securing plate forming at least a part of said gripping portion of said handle at the location of said securing plate and a fastening mechanism securing said securing plate with said housing and said securing plate covering said recess in said handle adjacent said chamber, said securing plate functioning as said gripping portion adjacent said chamber.

7. (Previously Presented) The power tool recited in claim 6, wherein said securing plate made of a material harder than material forming said chamber which includes said gaseous vibration damping medium.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A power drill comprising:

a main body;

a handle having opposite side surfaces each defining a gripping portion;

and

two chambers enclosing a gaseous vibration damping medium, said two chambers positioned on said opposite side surfaces of said handle, one said chamber protruding outwardly from said gripping portion of each said opposite side surface, said gripping portion covering a portion of said chamber, said chambers disceet from each other and said gripping portion including a recess for retaining said chambers on said handle such that said gaseous vibration damping medium is retained between said chambers and said handle such that said chambers, in use, protrude outward of said gripping portion, and substantially none of said vibration damping medium, in use, is sandwiched between said gripping portion and said handle, and said gripping portion covers a portion of the handle adjacent said chamber and said gripping portion providing a gripping surface adjacent said chamber.

10. (Previously Presented) The drill recited in claim 9 comprising two additional chambers enclosing a gaseous vibration damping medium, two of said chambers disposed to protrude from each of said gripping portions, each of said chambers discreet from each other.

11. (Previously Presented) The drill recited in claim 10, said drill further comprising two securing plates having an aperture therethrough, one said securing plates disposed on each said opposite side surface and defining at least a portion of the gripping portion of the handle at the locations of said securing plates, each said chamber protruding through one said aperture.

12. (Currently Amended) A power sander comprising:

- a housing including a main body having an upper gripping portion;
- a drive motor disposed within said main body;
- a sanding platen extending downwardly from said main body and being driven by said drive motor; and
- a chamber enclosing a gaseous vibration damping medium, said chamber resting on a portion of said housing, said chamber protruding from an upper surface of said gripping portion, said gripping portion including an inner surface of the housing for retaining said chamber on said housing and said gripping portion covers said housing portion adjacent said chamber such that said gaseous vibration damping medium is retained between said chamber and said housing such that said chamber, in use, protrudes from said gripping portion, and substantially none of said vibration damping

medium, in use, is sandwiched between said inner surface and said housing, and said gripping portion providing a surface adjacent said chamber continuous with said housing.

13. (Currently Amended) A power sander comprising:

a housing including a main body;

a drive motor disposed within said main body;

a sanding platen extending downwardly from same main body and being driven by said drive motor;

a handle extending rearwardly from said main body; and

a chamber enclosing a gaseous vibration damping medium, said chamber resting on a portion of said housing, said chamber protruding from an upper surface of said handle, a gripping portion including an inner surface of the housing for retaining said chamber on said housing and said gripping portion covers said housing portion adjacent said chamber such that said gaseous vibration damping medium is retained between said chamber and said housing such that said chamber, in use, protrudes from said gripping portion, and substantially none of said vibration damping medium, in use, is sandwiched between said inner surface and said housing, and said gripping portion providing a surface adjacent said chamber continuous with said housing.

14. (Previously Presented) The sander recited in claim 13 comprising two said chambers enclosing the gaseous vibration damping medium, each of said chambers discreet from each other and protruding from an upper surface of said handle.

15. (Currently Amended) A power saw comprising:

a main body housing including an opening therethrough to define a handle rearwardly of the opening, said housing adapted to receive a saw blade at a forward end;

a motor disposed in said main body, said motor driving said saw blade;
wherein,

said handle includes a gripping portion, a recess and a chamber enclosing a gaseous vibration damping medium protruding outwardly from said gripping portion, said chamber disposed relative to the gripping portion and said chamber positioned on said gripping portion for enabling parts of the user's hand, such as fingers, to contact the gripping portion and other parts, such as palm or heel, to contact the chamber for providing a dampening function for the user such that both the gripping portion and the chamber are simultaneously gripped during operation of the tool and a securing plate including at least one aperture through which said chamber protrudes such that said gaseous vibration damping medium is retained between said chamber and said handle recess such that said chamber in use protrudes through said at least one aperture, and substantially none of said vibration damping medium, in use, is sandwiched between said securing plate and said housing, said securing plate forming at least a part of said gripping portion of said handle at the location of said securing plate and a fastening

mechanism securing said securing plate with said housing and said securing plate covering a portion of said handle adjacent said chamber, said securing plate functioning as said gripping portion adjacent said chamber.